GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3596
ANSWERED ON:23.12.2008
PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF CEMENT
Satheedevi Smt. P.;Shukla Smt. Karuna;Suman Shri Ramji Lal;Tripathi Shri Chandramani

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the production capacity, demands and profits earned by cement manufacturing plants/ companies during the last three years and the current year in private and public sector, State-wise and plant-wise;

(b) whether the demand of cement is more than the previous year resulting in steep rise in cement prices;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the production of cement is commensurate with demand in the country;

(e) if so, the details thereof;

(f) if not, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(g) the details of the quantum of cement stocks in cement manufacturing plants till October, 2008; and

(h) the measures taken/being taken by the Government to contain the rise in cement prices and to prevent the sale of cement in black market ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR)

(a) : Plant wise details of Capacity and Despatches are at the Annexure. No data is maintained in respect of profits earned by cement companies.

(b) to (f) : At present the cement industry is operating at 85% of capacity due to sluggish demand. The prices of cement have been stable during January-October, 2008 showing a modest increase of 3.46% in that period. This Department does not maintain data of profits by the companies.

(g) : The closing stock of cement and clinker as on 31.10.2008 was 1.63 Million Tonnes and 6.05 Million Tonnes respectively.

(h) : Does not arise.